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**(54) Touch Panel Switch****(57) [Abstract]**

[Problem To Be Solved] To securely obtain moderate stroke sense and click sense, to secure superior operating feel, and to prevent misoperation.

[Solution Means] A touch position detection means 19 forms a grid-like light beam network 24 in parallel with a touch face 6 at a detection reference position lower than the position of the touch face 6 of a switch plate 7 during non-depression, by a prescribed distance in the depression direction of the said plate; and the touch position is detected by light beams interrupted by a hand, finger or the like depressing the said touch face 6 when the touch face 6 is pressed down below the aforementioned detection reference position.

